

**CHARLES TAYLOR MASTER
MECHANIC'S AWARD**

**Fairbanks Flight Standards District
Office Honoree 1993**

LOUIS M. APPLGATE



**THE FIRST INTERIOR ALASKAN
TO RECEIVE THE PRESTIGIOUS
CHARLES TAYLOR MASTER**

APPLGATE, LOUIS M. Louis was born June 16, 1917, in Portland, Oregon. Lou's aviation career began with the Lockheed Aircraft company in Burbank, California. In 1939, he worked for Lockheed performing numerous tasks including flight line mechanic, a position he held until 1948. During his early years with Lockheed he worked in the department, which did secret military aircraft development and later became known as the "The Skunk Works."

Lou first moved to Alaska in 1948 to homestead, but according to Lou, he went broke on the way up. He returned to Seattle for work and in 1950-1951, served in the U.S. Army. He was one of the few survivors of the 34th Regimental Combat team in Korea. Following the war, he worked for Boeing in Seattle, Washington. He returned to Alaska in

1952 and began working for Wien Airlines. Lou acquired his airframe and power plant mechanic certificate on April 5, 1954. He eventually quit the airlines and started his own aircraft maintenance and repair business in Fairbanks